

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 LAGOS 11582 261322Z

45

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-10 SAM-01 SAJ-01 AID-05

/077 W

----- 039594

O R 231620Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 2123

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

UNCLAS LAGOS 11582

E.O. 11652 : NA

TAGS : PFOR, OAU, AO, NI

SUBJ : GARBA RESTATES NIGERIAN POLICY TOWARD ANGOLA

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF ARTICLE FROM "SUNDAY OBSERVER" NOVEMBER 23 REPORTING MEA COMMISSIONER GARBA'S EXPLANATION OF FMG POLICY ON ANGOLA DELIVERED AT UNIVERSITY LAGOS AT LAUNCHING "NIGERIAN JOURNAL OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES" NOVEMBER 21.

2. QTE THE FEDERAL COMMISSIONER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, COL. J.N. GARBA HAS STRONGLY DEFENDED THE FEDERAL MILITARY GOVERNMENT AGAINST CRITICISMS BY INTELLECTUALS IN ITS HANDLING OF THE ANGOLAN ISSUE.

SPEAKING AT THE LAUNCHING OF THE "NIGERIAN JOURNAL OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES" IN LAGOS LAST FRIDAY, THE COMMISSIONER DESCRIBED MOST OF THE CRITICISMS AS BEING "UNFAIR AND AT TIMES UNREALISTIC."

COL. GARBA DESCRIBED THE ANGOLAN PROBLEM AS "HYDRA HEADED" AND POINTED OUT THAT THE SOLUTION TO ONE DOES NOT NECESSARILY

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 LAGOS 11582 261322Z

GUARANTEE THE SOLUTION OF THE OTHERS.

THE COMMISSIONER EXPLAINED THAT THE NIGERIAN GOVERNMENT'S VIEW HAD ALWAYS BEEN THAT UNTIL PORTUGAL ACUTALLY GRANTED INDEPENDENCE TO THE TERRITORY, "IT ALONE HAD THE JURIDICAL RESPONSIBILITY OF SETTLING THE FRATICIDAL CONFLICT."OYLCOL. GARBA STATED THAT NEVERTHE- LESS, NIGERIAN SUPPORTED BEHIND THE SCENES EFFORTS BY THE OAU TO UNITE THE CONFLICTING CLAIMS OF MPLA, UNITA AND THE FNLA.

HE POINTED OUT THAT SUCCESS IN TIBS SETTLEMENT ENDEAVOR DEPENDED ON THE WILLINGNESS OF THE PARTIES CONCERNED TO CO-OPERATE WITH ONE ANOTHER AND AMICABLY SETTLE THEIR DIFFERENCES AS WELL AS COMPLETE UNACIMITY AND CONSENSUS WITHIN THE OAU (SIC).

COL. GARBA SAID THAT THE PARTIES IN ANGOLA HAVE REFUSED IN SPITE OF DEDICATED EFFORTS BY THE OAU IN WHICH NIGERIA HAD BEEN VERY MUCH INVOLVED "TO BURY THEIR DIFFERENCES AND ASSUME JOINT LEADERSHIP OF THEIR COUNTRY."

ON THE OTHER HAND, HE ADDED, THE CONSENSUS WITHIN THE OAU HAD BROKEN DOWN AS A FEW OF ITS MEMBERS HAD LENT THEIR SUPPORT TO ONE FACTION OR THE OTHER.

COL. GARBA ADDED: "NIGERIA PREFERS TO REMAIN FAITHFUL TO THE OAU CHARTER WHICH PROHIBITS INTERFERENCE IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF MEMBER

COUNTRIES, AND FOR GOOD OR ILL, ANGOLA IS NOW AN INDEPENDENT COUNTRY AND NO ONE CAN IMPOSE A SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM OF THAT TERRITORY WITHOUT VIOLATING ITS SOVEREIGNTY.

"IN A NUTSHELL, THEREFORE, OUR POSITION ON ANGOLA IS THAT SINCE IT IS NOW A SOVEREIGN, INDEPENDENT COUNTRY, THE OAU HAS NO RIGHT TO MAKE DECISIONS FOR THAT COUNTRY WITHOUT THE CONSENT OF ALL ANGOLANS."

AND IN THE ABSENCE OF AN ACCEPTED CENTRAL GOVERNMENT, ANGOLA SHOULD BE REGARDED AS BEING REPRESENTED BY THREE POLITICAL MOVEMENTS, MPLA, FNLA AND UNITA, COL. GARBA DECLARED.

HE SAID ALL THE THREE PARTIES MUST BE A PARTY TO ANY DECISION REGARDING ANGOLA'S FUTURE FOR IT TO BE BINDING ON THE COUNTRY.
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 LAGOS 11582 261322Z

THE COMMISSIONER DISCLOSED THAT NIGERIA WOULD SUPPORT AN OAU MEETING ON ANGOLA PROVIDED ALL THE THREE MAIN PARTIES WERE WILLING TO ATTEND.

ON THE COUNTRY'S FOREIGN POLICY, COL. GARBA SAID "NO ONE APPRECIATES OR UNDERSTANDS BETTER THAN THIS GOVERNMENT DOES, THE NEEDS AND YEARNINGS OF NIGERIANS FOR DYNAMISM IN OUR FOREIGN POLICY."

HE, HOWEVER, CAUTIONED THAT FOOLHARDINESS AND JINGOISM SHOULD
NOT BE EQUATED WITH DYNAMISM. END QTE.
EASUM

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PUBLIC DISCLOSURE, COLONIALISM, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, PRESS RELEASES, NATIONAL UNIFICATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 NOV 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975LAGOS11582
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750411-1042
From: LAGOS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751118/aaaaapzi.tel
Line Count: 119
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: izenbei0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 SEP 2003 by chicheje>; APPROVED <29 JAN 2004 by izenbei0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: : GARBA RESTATES NIGERIAN POLICY TOWARD ANGOLA
TAGS: PFOR, AO, NI, OAU, MPLA, UNITA, FNLA, (GARBA)
To: STATE KINSHASA
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006